# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

# BILL ANALYSIS

## **Judiciary Committee**

## **SB 6030**

**Title**: An act relating to license suspension clerical errors.

**Brief Description**: Addressing license suspension clerical errors.

**Sponsors**: Senators Shin, Kline, Delvin and Regala.

### **Brief Summary of Bill**

Allows a court to order that a person convicted of DUI not have his or her driver's
license suspended if the court finds that notice to the Department of Licensing about
the conviction has been delayed for three years or more due to a clerical or court
error.

Hearing Date: 2/16/12

Staff: Trudes Tango (786-7384).

#### Background:

The mandatory criminal penalties for a conviction of driving or being in physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs (DUI) includes, among other things, the suspension of the person's driver's license. The suspension period depends upon the person's alcohol concentration (BAC) level, or refusal to take a BAC test, and the person's prior offenses within seven years. The suspension periods can range from 90 days to four years. The Department of Licensing (DOL) suspends the person's license upon receipt of a notice of conviction from the court.

Whether or not there is a criminal conviction, a person may have his or her license suspended administratively by the DOL for driving with a BAC of .08 or higher or for refusing to take a BAC test. The administrative suspension periods can range from 90 days to two years.

## **Summary of Bill**:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

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Upon its own motion or upon a motion by a person, a court may find that notice to the DOL about a person's DUI conviction has been delayed for three years or more as a result of a clerical or court error. The court may order that person's license, permit, or nonresident privilege shall not be revoked, suspended, or denied for the offense.

The court must send a notice of its order to the DOL and to the person. Upon receipt of the court's notice, the DOL may not revoke, suspend, or deny the license, permit, or nonresident privilege of the person for that offense.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

**Effective Date**: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.